



## Agenda

### By participating in this institute, teachers will learn:

- Did you ever wonder why certain types of offenses end up in municipal court rather than circuit court? Participate in mini mock trials and find out how Wisconsin municipal courts handle different types of ordinance violations.
- How to use the case study approach to help students understand the facts, issues, arguments, and Court's decision in a Wisconsin landmark case, *State v. Mitchell*.
- What it's like to be a Supreme Court justice. The position carries great responsibility and power but imagine having six colleagues edit your every word. Hear from the Chief Justice about life on the Court and learn how she keeps her personal beliefs separate from her decisions in cases.
- The toughest part of the trial judge's job: criminal sentencing. Become the judge in a sentencing exercise based on an actual case, and weigh the defendant's conduct and the victim's loss. Compare your decision with that of a judge who decides daily whether a defendant's actions merit prison.
- How the Supreme Court sifts through the 1,000 petitions filed each year to choose the approximately 100 cases it will hear. Review real petitions, follow the criteria you will be given, and see if you can spot the cases that our state Supreme Court accepted.
- Americans turn to courts to resolve disputes in a peaceful and orderly manner. Learn how to use significant primary and secondary resources on the role of courts in the American and Wisconsin political system.
- Who owns our garbage after we take it outside? Garbage! Among the food scraps and coffee grounds, we discard many items that contain personal information. Participate in a moot court and find out what the Wisconsin Supreme Court said on this fascinating case.

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## Thursday, March 6

[all sessions on Thursday [except reception] and Friday will take place at the Wisconsin Bar center]

12:30 – 1:00	Registration	Lobby
1:00 – 1:30	Introductions, overview of objectives and agenda Presenters: Diana Hess, Dee Runaas	Wingra Room
1:30 – 2:45	History, constitutional powers of the Wisconsin Supreme Court. How the Wisconsin Supreme Court fits into the overall Wisconsin court system. <b>Presenter:</b> <i>Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson</i> , Wisconsin Supreme Court	

- 2:45 – 3:00**      **Break**
- 3:00 – 4:45**      **Municipal Court Lesson**  
 Did you ever wonder why certain types of offenses end up in municipal court and not circuit court? Why do different municipal courts handle different types of ordinance violations? This exercise is designed to promote a better understanding of the types of ordinance violations these courts handle and to appreciate the decision-making process that determines which court will hear certain types of cases. **Presenters:** Dr. Diana Hess, *Hon. Derek Mosley*, *Hon. Thomas J. Alisankus*
- 4:45 – 5:30**      **Check in at hotel**
- 6:00 - 7:30**      **Reception with Justices of the Wisconsin Supreme Court**  
**Location:** Hilton Hotel, Capitol Club Room, downtown
- 7:30**              **Dinner on your own**

## Friday, March 7

- 8:30 – 8:45**      **Continental Breakfast & Overview of Day's Activities** *Wingra Room*  
 Diana Hess
- 8:45 – 10:15**      **Taking and Deciding Cases:** The process the Wisconsin Supreme Court uses to select which cases to hear. After an explanation of the criteria the Court uses to select the approximately 100 cases it will hear from the more than 1,000 petitions for review filed each term, we will participate in an activity to apply those criteria to actual petitions for review. **Presenters:** Supreme Court Commissioner *Julie Rich*, Appellate Public Defender Ellen Henak
- 10:15 – 10:30**      **Break**
- 10:30 – 12:15**      **Using the case study approach to teach about law and the courts.**  
 Focusing on *State v. Mitchell* and *Wisconsin v. Mitchell*, participants will learn a variety of ways to use the case study approach to help students understand the facts, issues, arguments, and Court's decision in a case. In preparation for this session, participants will be sent the Wisconsin and U.S. Supreme Court decisions in the case to read in advance. **Presenter:** Diana Hess
- 12:15 – 1:00**      **Lunch (includes break)**
- 1:00 – 3:00**      **Mock Trial and Sentencing Exercise** *Wingra*  
 Unlike other court hearings, sentencings are often front-page news. These difficult and emotional hearings are the public's window on the courts. This exercise is designed to promote a better understanding of sentencing through reenactment of a sentencing hearing. After a primer on Truth in Sentencing, participants will step into a judge's shoes to sentence a woman in a drunken driving homicide case. Based upon an actual case, the scenario requires some very difficult decisions and demonstrates why sentencing is, for many

judges, the toughest part of the job. **Presenters:** *Hon. Ralph Ramirez; Attorneys Eric Peterson & Eric Schulenburg; Sheri Carter and Tom McGlamery.*

- 3:00 – 3:15**      **Break**
- 3:15 – 4:45**      **Supreme Court Lesson on the Pledge (Description to be determined.)**
- 4:45 – 5:00**      **Resource Overview**
- 5:00**              **Dinner on your own**

**Saturday, March 8** [Morning sessions are at the Wisconsin Supreme Court  
*You will need to check out of your room before the first session begins.*

- 9:00**              **Overview of Day's Activities**  
Diana Hess *Wisconsin Supreme Court*
- 9:05 – 10:20**      **Fourth Amendment principles and precedents to set the stage for the moot court.** Participate in an interactive session designed to prepare participants for the moot court. **Presenters:** Atty. Ellen Henak
- 10:20 – 1:20**      **Moot Court of State v. Stevens (1985)** [Includes breaks]  
**Presenters:** Attorney *Thomas Balistreri*, who argued this case before the Wisconsin Supreme Court, & Attorney Rob Henak. *Stacy Forster, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, will work with the teachers assigned to be “journalists.” *Justice N. Patrick Crooks* will work with the moot court justices. Diana Hess will facilitate the moot court.
- 1:30 – 2:30**      **Lunch** *The Chop House, Hilton*
- 2:30 - 3:00**      **Evaluation and Wrap-up.**  
**Presenters:** Diana Hess, Dee Runaas & Tom Sheehan
- 3:00**              **Depart**